

Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

March 3, 1978.

LOEKEP  
10/99

Dear Agnar:

I imagine that you have concluded that I have forgotten how to write since I haven't corresponded since your last letter of Oct. 5 which incidently has been collecting various items since receiving but just couldn't seem to get around to get off an answer.

Briefly here are some of the reasons for my tardiness. My wife's sister and her husband both passed away in Nov. and her other sister from Arizona, who is quite handicapped came for the funerals and stayed with us until in Jan. she then went to California to see her son, and that is where she is at present, in hospital with a fractured pelvis, so it seems there may still be problems.

Thanks for the interesting rubbing of Workhouse City of St. Louis Mo 5¢ sq. Al. I see a rubbing of a Mo br. item which I picked up last fall. Also a short newspaper article thought might be interested in seeing.

Well any way I think that establishes that there is a 25¢ and 50¢ Turney anyway. Nice going with your 5.00 Tennessee, haven't heard from Dillingham for some time now.

The items you mentioned of variety of 10 City Jál St Louis and the fiber 5¢ I see are on your list of items I received from you in 1974.

Those La Grange tokens sure look a lot like a coal token don't they, have only the 5¢ and 50¢ in my collection.

Enclosing a zerox of a page received from Melvin Reiter recently that you might like to read. Have made rubbings of various Michigan tokens around the edge.

As to your P.S. I haven't been completely satisfied with the rubbings since I think I have too hard of a rubber roller, but I use the carbonless adding machine paper. (two strips enclosed) and by placing the token on a hard surface with both pieces of paper on top, roll with a roller ( have tried other pressure methods such as rubbing with spoon or metal but can't make it work as well as a roller. I tried squeezing in a vise but didn't do so good.

ANA had their spring convention in Colorado Springs a week or so ago, didn't have many tokens, did however complete my set of the Tombstone AT Medals.

Regards,

*Chas*



*5¢ al so  
get out of  
prison*

June 12, 1975

Dear Chas.:

Thank you for your letter with the red dollar token of Colorado prison.

Regarding the letter from Tom Robinson, I see he has a 5¢ listed for the Dept. of Corr. Ark. al so, and which I don't have. The letter copy of which I sent you is the only information I had until now that there was a 5¢ al so..

Do you have the 5¢ al so, and do you know if he has any more. I won't write him until I know what the situation is. I seem to have all that he lists in this letter except this 5¢. I also note that I have some duplicates of those he has listed. Do you need any of them? It may be I can help you.

About the \$1.00 currency from Sing Sing, I do have one, and I paid \$25.00 for it. Even with inflation and the Arab gas prices, I think \$150.00 is too much. I think \$50.00 is a fair price for it.

So far as the Sacramento jail tokens are concerned, I don't know what they were used for. They seem to be the same size, like a dime; no doubt for vending machines. Wonder how I can find out? Will ask Steve Album next time I see him.

Regards,

*X*  
SING-SING  
PAPER  
MONEY



## Their House Not Only Home, But Good Place for a Circus

EVANSTON, Ill. (AP) — Mary Laney's house is not your typical 10-bedroom, 9-bath home. It was built by Charles Ringling of circus fame and once used by St. Luke's Episcopal Church as the rectory.


The producer, writer and reporter for a local television station says it was the solid oak, double staircase that sold her on the place, but she also was attracted by the house's history.

Records show that Ringling had the home built around 1910 and that it was designed by architect A.C. Clas.



A1.





as health, education and transportation.

A typical forecast of a few years back was the trend toward extended financial dependence among young people because they are staying in school longer.

**NOW BEFORE** you run out and try to buy a copy of The Tend Report, you may as well know that a one-year subscription costs \$10,000. For that price, the center also throws in additional services such as access to its data bank retrieval system.

But still, who on earth would pay that kind of money for social forecasts?

Plenty of people, it seems. Like International Paper Co. And Union Carbide. And more than 30 other supporting



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

City Jail / St. Louis

Sept. 18, 1977.

Dear Ag:

Will try to get a few lines put together in answer to your last letter of July 11. Sorry to be so late but really do not have much new information to add.

Our summer has been so mixed up and unsettled for us as my wifes sister has been with us since March to Sept. 2. She is somewhat handicapped physically and mentally, having lost her husband the later part of March. They lived in Phoenix. She went to Arizona for the winter now so we were able to get aboard the Delta Queen in St. Paul on Sept. 2 for a weeks trip down the Mississippi River to St. Louis. Was quite comfortable and had enjoyable companions aboard.

Have never been able to pinpoint the 5 Jail token. I had sort of concluded that it was a stock token issued by Wright of Cincinnati O. Not sure.

Thanks for the information on the zerox concerning the lg Tennessee variety. I have not seen either. Also the information the \$5.00 Tennessee.

Enclosed zerox of a note from Paul Dillingham in response to my question I sent him on the rubbing of the Workhouse piece you have. and also if he had seen any CCC tokens. Note he comments on the \$5.00 Tennessee piece.

Enclosing also zerox copy of an article that was in the Post last week that I thought you might be interested in reading. He make some interesting points.

Rubbing of an aluminum Jail piece of St. Louis that I found not too long ago.

Regards,

*Chas*

Understand  
these are tokens from  
Rainford Prison (Fla)

4 for TV  
with names



July 11, 1977

Dear Chas.:

Thanks for your letter

About the 5 Jail token, I will grant you that it needs to be explained. Wonder if the Wright Co. can be of assistance. Don't know if it is still in business. Some time back I tried to locate the Schmidt Co. of St. Louis, they made a lot of CCC tokens, but they have been out of business and I had no way to turn. Will go to the local telephone company and see if it is listed in the phone book, get the address and write.

Am enclosing copy of a letter from Dave Mullins of Nashville TN, a specialist in Tennessee tokens. You will note he mentions two new Tennessee State Prison tokens, with a new variety of the 1¢. Feel confident that when they decided to put out a \$5.00 (inflation?) token that perhaps they had a complete set made at the same time which could account for the different variety of the 1¢. It is possible that other varieties might show up late in other denominations. Very interesting.

By the way, I did make an offer for some of the \$5.00 and if I get more than one will let you know.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Denver, Co.  
July 3, 1977.

Dear Ag:

A few words this afternoon, since it is quite warm and we seem to be staying in this afternoon. Have had in-laws here most of the summer (and still here) so it is hard to get time to do any corresponding.

Replying to your letter of May 29. Haven't any new word on the token rubbing that you sent as to whether it is from Tennessee or not or if Dillingham has any CCC tokens. I expect a reply before long.

Now that the Madison Jail is settled I suppose the same can be done with LAKE STREET JAIL /4409 W. LAKE ST., #CHI L06.

I am not so sure about the 5 Jail. I sort of came to the conclusion that this was possibly a stock token and may be used in various areas. Would be interesting to find out for sure. Since the enclosure from Gary Pipher has mention of Cincinnati, actually it reads Wright Cin. O. which I consider as the name of the maker of the token. It is in very small letters as you can see from the rubbing. Note the same is on both sides of the token. I don't have but one of S.D. but it wasn't hard to come by.

Don't recall, what was new here, that I ~~have~~ had mentioned in previous letter. So this may repeat: U.S. Public Health Service Hospital Lexington Ky/ For Patients use only. Round Brass- center hole. Missouri State Penitentiary 10¢ J.W. Saunders Warden Round Brass Missouri State Penitentiary William Kruse Secretary 10¢ Oc. Brass.

Remember the 5¢ Ark Dept of Corr, 4 sc Al. that I recall you said you twisted Jenkins arm to get a copy and which I needed. Harry English having mentioned that it existed. Well I received several from Doty Coy recently and for which I had a trade with him. He dug them up someplace

That is about it for now.

Regards,

*Chas*

*Never heard of a prison token with mfv*

*Hear from English. How is he?*



May 29, 1977

Dear Chas.:

Thnaks for your nice letter. Also appreciate the rubbings of the Turney tokens. Don't know about the 25¢ and 50¢ but it would make sense inasmuch as their other prison tokens carry that denomination. Perhaps your friend Dillingham can help.

Incidentally, I don't know him. Wonder if he has any Tennessee CCC tokens I can get a rubbing of if I don't have them?

I agree with you that the Madison Jail token is laid to rest. Haveea sneaking suspicion that the 5 Jail will go the same route. It might be an amusement token, although Alpert doesn't list it. Think I will write him and ask him.

Incidentally, along this line am enclosing a copy of part of a mail auction I got and it lists the 5 Jail as a Cincinnati jail. But his statement about the S. D. Penitentiary token being smuggled out of the penitentiary is a lot of baloney. I have ten myself and know where there are others. Furthermore, it was not used as moeny; it was for coin machines. So I would take what he says about the 5 Jail with a grain of salt also.

Regards,







May 8, 1977

Dear Chas.:

Following up my letter to you of May 2 -- and referring again to the Madison St. Jail token -- I just received Sam Ruggeri's index of TAMS Mavericks and in going through it I find that the token listed as Madison St. Jail is a bar and not a jail token.

It is Maverick #3649 in Volume 13, No. 1. I believe it was attributed by Ben Odesser of Chicago in a later volume. The listing I referred to in my last letter of a Madison St. Circus with the same address is no doubt the same bar with a different name. Maybe different owners; maybe the same place partitioned off. Anyway, thought I would let you know.

I also have a sneaking suspicion that the 5 Jail token (your letter of April 27, 1976) is also something along the same line, either a bar or amusement place.

Regards,



PRISON

CHARLES CARTER

CHECKED  
10/99

October 24, 1976

March 3, 1978

Dear Chas.:

Thanks a million for the Carnaval & Circus Booking Guide. I never knew such a publication existed; it has information on this topic I sure can use -- for instance, the winter headquarters of some of the companies whose tokens I have. This information I had never been able to get. I intend to write the publishers and ask if they have some of the older booking guides, because a lot of the companies whose tokens I have seem to be out of business.

Your sending it to me is more than a coincidence. About a month ago I was sorting my circus tokens and decided to make a listing of them and submit them to TAMS. With that in mind I wrote Clancy Riggs, of Portland, who has been a circus collector for years and has some I do not have, asking him if he was interested in selling his circus tokens; and if not, to give me an up to date list. Lo and behold, he said he was willing to sell. And to make a long story short, I did buy them, about 48 in all, with 18 or 19 that I did not have. Now along comes your magazine gift, and I know I am on the right track.

I know I have been negligent in keeping up with my correspondence, but have been involved in two weddings in the family, and some trips, also haven't had much luck in finding new material (except the Riggs collection), which has made the time pass faster than usual. But hope to make up for it.

Have not found any prison stuff, although I did get some CCCs, and am planning to do some work on them soon.

Thanks again. Will be in touch.

Regards,



*State Industrial School  
Robert*

February 29, 1976

Dear Chas.:

Just a short one. About the letterhead, a ream was given to me when I retired, and I just came across them, so thought I might use them.

Am attaching a letter from the Kentucky State Reformatory which explains itself. Now we know that tokens were used there; the fun, I guess, will be finding them.

Am writing them and asking if they can tell me the denominations used, and when I hear will let you know.

Also am enclosing a Work House token that I bought. Don't know a thing about it and wonder if you or Harry English have heard of it. It is supposed to have been used around the turn of the century in New Mexico; at least that is what I get from the person I got it from.

Am planning on being at the Jamboree the end of March. Understand there are a couple of CCC items in the auction.

Regards,



Send by  
copy of  
letter

Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

1st Not Texas this  
I have seen  
B4 but it  
is not as



AGNAR WAHLBERG,  
1470 SOUTH CALLE MARCUS,  
PALM SPRINGS,  
CA. 92262.

Would like to see if  
his 10-yr old info is  
as my info is Jap  
use mainly  
no doubt used in  
Texas, but for what?  
make for Japs

App  
mainly



of all these silly  
things — to forget  
the name — Coy.  
Shows how  
hurry I was to  
get the bird sheet hymn,  
I, like you, started  
CA + NV too late  
so I go to places  
that aren't crowded  
— etc  
over 5 to 50 mil  
5 to 50



February 10, 1976

Dear Chas.:

Received your letter with enclosure, and appreciate them very much. I know how you feel about trying to collect Colorado tokens at this late date; that is exactly the reason I quit California and Nevada tokens, as well as saloon tokens; it seems everybody is doing it. So I picked on fields that didn't seem so crowded, and am enjoying it more. Though sometimes I get the feeling everybody else is getting into the act.

In going over my last letter to you, I neglected to tell you who I got the Anamosa tokens from -- it was Mr. Coy. I paid \$5.00 for the 5-piece set: 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, 25¢ and 35¢. I have sent him a card telling him you would be interested, so no doubt you will be hearing from him.

Just a couple of comments about Harry English's letter which you sent me.

I am very interested in the La Grange Canteen token situation. Looks like it might be a prison-oriented facility and thus fit into our collections. Keep me posted if anything new comes up.

About the I & N Service tokens, this is the second time I have run across the statement that they were used for POWs in Texas. Maybe I am too far away from Texas, but my understanding has always been that they were used for the Japanese internment camps on the West Coast -- in California and Arizona. These people were not POWs, they were Americans interned in camps like Mananar because of the fear they might do something in the way of sabotage. Furthermore, they were under the Immigration and Naturalization Service and not the Army. The Army had charge of POWs and not internees. The bulk of the Japanese in this country were located on the West Coast, and that is where the camps were.

By the way I don't seem to have a subject of



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
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Feb. 5, 1976.

Dear Agnar:

Thanks for the bid sheet listing of Colorado Tokens that you enclosed. I looked this list of tokens over carefully but couldn't find anything that I could use. This doesn't mean that I have all of them as they are many but I just don't specialize in Colorado Tokens. I just started too late and feel there are other fields that I could work on to a better advantage.

*mostly  
R-1 and R-2*

Haven't heard from anyone with an Anamosa, Iowa (Mens State Reformatory) set as of this date. Yes I would be interested in obtaining this set if whoever has it will contact me. Doug Redies is the only person in Cedar Rapids (which is not far from Anamosa) that I know and I haven't heard from him since last fall. He is a TT Collector.

*Mens State Reformatory*

Thought I would hunt up what I had on the La Grange item and maybe can go from there. The enclosed zerox of a letter from H. English I received last Oct. is where I picked up that this was a prison facility of some sort.

That's it.

Regards,





February 4, 1976

Dear Chas.:

Just a short note because I want to get this bid sheet on Colorado tokens to you in case you see something you can use.

Received a set of tokens used at Anamosa, Iowa, the 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, 25¢ and 35¢. He wanted to sell me both sets, but I only needed the one and suggested he contact you.

About the La Grange Canteen, this is interesting if it turns out to be a prison or workhouse token. I told Mr. Coy about it and asked him to look around and see if he can find any. Wonder how we can find out what it is. I would think Paul Jensen should be able to give some help as he specializes in Kentucky. Maybe Mr. Coy will have a clue. Will wait and see.

About all for now.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Jan. 26, 1976.

Dear Agnar:

It has been quite a while that I received your last letter ( dated Dec. 4, 1) but it just seemed that the past 30 days or so have been the most dis-organized that I have seen in some time. But it is getting better now pretty fast so I will be back to normal soon I hope.

Yes, I rather think that you would have been disappointed in the Pittsburgh show. Interest sure was at a low ebb. Just didn't have much advertising and as I talked to some from out-of-town collectors who were there, it seemed that they had difficulty in finding the place.

Glad you are finding some CCC and circus items. I hear from Mr. Coy now and then but I am not sure half the time what he is writing. Rather hard to figure out his letters. I gather, however, that he has not added anything very recent to his collection.

Looks as tho I misled you on the La Grange Canteen Tokens of Kentucky. I have a 5¢ and Harry English has the 50¢. Both have similar wording. Paul Jensen Ft. Thomas Ky had the 50¢ that Harry English got from the Pittsburgh show a year ago and I got the 5¢ from Gaylor Lipscomb, Fairfield Ohio last fall in Pittsburgh. I only have verbal assurance that it is a a Prison piece.

I as yet haven't heard from Mr. Lemke.

Have you heard from Howard W. Herz, Stateline Nev? He said he was going to write you. I received one letter from him which I answered but that has been some time ago and no reply since.

Your search for \$5 and \$10 Sing Sing sounds like there just isn't very many around. As I mentioned I got the \$1.00 from Mr. Muscalus last fall after your suggestion.

Well that is about enough. Will keep in touch.

Sincerely





1  
2  
3  
4 December 4, 1975

5 Dear Chas.:

6 Many thanks for your breezy and informative letter  
7 of November 11th. Don't know what is the matter with us  
8 old retirees, we just can't seem to get enough time to  
keep up with our correspondence. But it is fun.

9 Talked to Paul Koppenhaver a few days ago and he  
10 told me he had heard the Pittsburgh meeting was a bomb  
11 so am glad I did not go. However, Philadelphia sounds  
interesting, especially in 1976, so will try to make it.  
Am definitely going to San Jose in March, as I have a  
sister and friends in the neighborhood.

12 Have been lucky lately on getting some CCC tokens,  
13 also some circus material and George Junior Republic. But  
14 nothing in the way of prison stuff, except Mr. Coy sent me  
a record by some ex-con singing a song about Cummins State  
Farm. It is sort of interesting so I have put it with my  
prison material.

15  
16 The Department of Justice I & N token was used during  
World War II in the internment camps that were set up for  
17 aliens at that time. I also have the 1¢, but know of a 5¢  
and I believe I saw a 50¢ in a sale once. I think it is an  
18 interesting set and am hoping to get a complete one. The  
Lagrange Ky token I am unfamiliar with. Gordon Dodrill in  
19 his book on coal tokens shows a La Grange Coal Co. but listed  
in Ohio. You speak of Harry having the 5¢ and 50¢. Is it  
a prison token?

20  
21 Which leads me to Mr. Lemke. I have not heard from him  
with. I know he is a busy man, but maybe he bit off more  
22 than he can chew. Harry's behavior also seems strange. Is  
it a characteristic peculiar to token collectors? As for  
23 giving my name to any collector, please do; the more people I  
can correspond with the more I like it. And you never know  
when you can make a trade.

24 Have a nice holiday, you and your family.

25 Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Nov. 11, 1975.

Dear Agnar:

It seems that I have gotten some two letters behind in my correspondence. Will take them in the order that they were received.

Sept. 16. Your mention of Mr. Lemke brings to mind that in accordance with a letter I received from him I prepared a complete listing of the prison material that I had and mailed to him on Sept. 14 with comments on points that he outlined, and haven't heard from him since.

Referring to the Westchester items, I suppose it could be quite possible that similar items as the Tombs, etc., exist but I have never gotten a rise from Harry English, as yet anyway concerning the existence of such items. Can't figure him out and he seems to have accumulated a very extensive file of information and he always comes up with an answer to any thing I happen to run across.

Oh yes by the way did you locate the \$5 or \$10 Sing Sing from Mr. Muscalus that you mentioned recently as possible having and whom you had met at ANA? I did contact him and obtained the \$1 as you suggested. Thanks again for the tip.

Your third paragraph on comments to Mr. Lemke are good and am pleased that you can offer constructive suggestions on such a publication.

Glad to hear you got the 5¢ Ark. Dept of Corr token from Tom Robinson. I am still looking.

Your two week cruise in December sure sounds interesting, have fun.

Oct. 5: I don't think that you missed very much by not getting to Pittsburgh. It seems that there was very little advertising. The show was about the same as in Pittsburgh last year, some thirteen dealers represented. They plan on Philadelphia next year. Very poor attendance. I did however pick up quite a few transportation tokens and Ariz. Indian trade tokens that I needed.

Made a rubbing of a Lagrange Ky token that I found, it is bronze and looks somewhat like the coal tokens of the eastern coal regions of the country.. The obv. is the same as the rev. According to Harry he indicated only the 5¢ and 50¢. And that 50¢ was one Paul Jenking had in Pittsburgh last year that I was chasing but Harry out traded me for it so he has the 50¢.

The 1¢ Dept of Justice just happened to be available so I picked it up.

Sorry to be so slow in answering, but had to go to Phoenix after returning from Pittsburgh just got back last week



As to the auction material by Joe Levine, I couldn't get very excited as there was so little in it that interested me.

X At a small coin show here just before I went to Phoenix a dealer by the name of Howard W. Herz, Numismatic Collections P. O.Box 128 Stateline Nev. 89449 ~~to~~ whom I was discussing the Nevada Prison tokens said he would like to know where you were located and seemed to have had correspondence with you, so I hope you won't mind, as I gave him your address, since he seemed quite interested in contacting you.

well i guess that is about it for now.

Regards,

*Alas*



October 5, 1975

Dear Chas.:

Have been at the cabin the past week, and don't expect any mail until the end of the week so don't know if there is anything to answer. But I did want to get this to you as soon as possible.

I had planned to get to Pittsburgh this month and think I had mentioned it previously to you. But things have happened that has changed my mind, and won't be able to make it.

Received the auction sheet from Joe Levine, who is conducting the auction, and find nothing of interest in it. Also I had planned to get to the National Archives in Washington on the same trip, but won't have enough time to do all I wanted to. Furthermore, there doesn't seem to be any publicity or interest out here, and I somehow get the feeling it is going to be a bust. Would rather sit this one out and wait for another time.

Just wanted to get this information to you. Nothing else of interest at this time.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
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August 31, 1975

Dear Agnar:

Will write a few lines this afternoon while I am pounding the typewriter trying to catch up on correspondence and the end of the month reports that seem to become due all too soon.

Summer has about flown here. But we will have, I hope, the usual nice autumn season coming up. Fishing gets good from now on till it freezes up in late December.

Thanks for the tip on the New York paper item, will write him and see what he has to offer as suggested.

Thought I would try and get a reproduction of the rubbings of the Westchester items and send on to you, maybe you can make out what they look like anyway.

He (Harry English) indicated to me in his letter that he wanted to check with a friend concerning these tokens, so I presume his "friend" has these tokens as the rubbings were certainly made from the actual tokens

As you mention I hope also that he will take the time to supply what information he may have in the compilation of a catalog. He has indicated that he had reams of data. But he feels that the demand for such a publication would be very limited, as we all know, as well as how far to carry the listings, should it include coupons, jails (county and local), mental institutions, correctional facilities and the like. Where to draw the line would have to be decided?

Oh yes, do you remember the 5¢ (25mm) Jefferson County Jail Kentucky- brass we saw in San Jose? I got one last week from a collector in Tennessee, beautiful copy.

Had thought a little about going to ANA, since AVA had their convention in LA the following week. But didn't make it, several went from here to attend both conventions. Guess it is quite a meeting. Am still planning on making the East Jamboree in Pittsburgh

That's it.

Regards,





August 26, 1975

Dear Gas.:

Harry English must have some collection if he has the two Westchester County tokens and the rubber stamp on paper. Also he is very knowledgeable about prison tokens. As I told Mr. Lemke, he is the one who really has the information. Do hope he is interested in helping out so we can get a book on prison and jail tokens. Has he evinced any interest in such an undertaking? I do not correspond with him so am not familiar with his views.

Spent a day at the ANA in Los Angeles, and it really is something. Bigger than anything I have seen, and well run. Met a lot of token people there; also ran into some token dealers with interesting items. Do think I have a Ft. Riley CCC token coming if I can make the trade.

Also ran into a paper (currency) dealer who had a one dollar Sing Sing note for \$35.00. He is Dr. J. A. Muscalus, Box 185, Bridgeport PA 19405. I told him I would tell you and you can write if you want it. Perhaps you should ask if he has any Sing Sing notes and then let him give you the price. You may get it for less; although if he asks more for it, tell him he had it listed at the ANA for 35, and I am sure you can get it. I plan to ask if he has any five or ten notes. He said he wasn't sure, he had to look when he got back.

Regards,



July 20, 1975

Dear Chas:

Am glad you passed on the information about Westchester County Penitentiary to Harry English. Perhaps he has heard of it, or at least he is closer to that part of the county than we are and can check into it. I do not believe it was a part of Sing Sing, as Sing Sing is one of the oldest prisons in the country. Will be interesting to hear if anything turns up.

By now you have received a letter from Mr. Lemke of COINS Magazine. I sent him your name, Harry English and Tom Casper, the only active prison collectors I knew of. I think this is an excellent opportunity to assist in getting up ~~something~~ something we are all interested in -- updating Burns' book. I hope everybody will pitch in and do what they can. Each one of us can contribute something, I am sure. Too bad we are so scattered and have to do it by mail, which is time consuming, but Mr. Lemke will do the work of putting it all together, which is a big load off our shoulders.

Good luck to everybody.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
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July 14, 1975.

Dear Agnar:

Your letter of June 29 and enclosure received.

From your zerox copy, the N. Y. Prison token of Westchester County Penitentiary is an interesting item. I am just wondering if possibly the reference may be to the present Sing Sing facility. Mabe before it was renamed. Just a guess.

Anyway I sent Harry English a copy of the list for his comments as you suggested.

It certainly is a new unheard of item to me and thanks for this information. I make a space for such items and list what description is available at the time. It just gives me more to watch out for, even if it appears that most of the usual sources are drying up as it were, since, don't see much in auction & sales lists that I can use. Guess that is the penalty the nearer one gets to the end, however I am sure there are still unlisted and unheard of items yet to be found.

That is about it for now, have a nice summer.

Regards,





Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

July 1, 1975

Dear Agnar:

I wonder just how lucky one can be. Thanks very much for the 10¢ Oc. Br. Cummins State Farm. That space has been blank in my collection for some time and I just never seemed to locate anywhere this token. I really appreciate this nice copy.

I hadn't thought that you might have any duplicates when I mentioned these Arkansas tokens, it was just that we were comparing notes on the Arkansas items.

Your course through Robinson seems to be a good approach for the 5¢ Dept. of Corr. Ark. and here's hoping you have some luck. Among the items that I had for trade he could only find one Colorado token (trade) that he could use so he traded me a 5¢ Rd. Al Tucker some time ago. He seems to be looking for Western coal and lumber tokens. At <sup>least</sup> he was at that time.

English never states where he gets any of his tokens and makes it a point in correspondence that all deals are confidential unless both parties agree. So I do not know where he might have found the 5¢ Dept. of Corr.

Now and then he will mention that he has acquired certain tokens from some correctional facility or other. Are you interested in the having the descriptive information to such items? If so, will pass on to you if you would like.

Not much news here. Had some trouble at the Penitentiary some time ago and I understand that they have discontinued the use of tokens altogether now. Will have to wait and see what happens.

Regards,





June 29, 1975

Dear Chas.:

Some five years ago, as you can see from the postmark, a collector friend knowing I was collecting prison tokens, sent me the following price list from Kay Coin Service Corp. I was particularly interested in item No. 12, the Westchester County Penitentiary token, and wrote to them trying to find out all about it. Of course it had been sold, and I never got an answer, although I followed it up several times.

In going through some of my old correspondence I ran across this, and thinking it might be of interest to you I made a Xerox copy of it. Don't know if you have heard of it or not; and am wondering if your friend Harry English knows about it.

Just wanted to pass along the information for your reference.

Regards,



June 24, 1975

Dear Chas.:

Letter received and contents noted, as they used to say in the old days.

Looked through my duplicates and of the three you mention as missing, I only find one of them, the 10¢ Co. Br. Cummins State Farm. Be my guest. Only wish I could have found the others in duplicate.

Now it seems we are both short the 5¢ Sc. Al. Board of Cour. Ark. I will write Robinson and ask if he has any. Don't know what else to do. If I write the prison direct, they no doubt will tell Robinson and I don't want him to think I am going over his head. He seems to be the only source, so I think I will do that and let you know what I hear.

Did English ever tell you where he got his? Don't know what else to suggest. One thing for sure, they did make a 5¢ and there are some around. Better find a couple before they disappear.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

June 18, 1975

Dear Agnar:

Thanks for your reply of June 12 to my questions on certain issues of prison tokens.

Reviewing the information that I had on the existence of the 5¢ Dept of Corr. Ark. 4 sc al; when I had noticed the listing on Tom Robinson's letter (copy sent with my last letter to you) I wrote him to verify this 5¢ listing. He never mentioned an answer in any later correspondence, so I just let it ride.

I had obtained the four values (10-25-50-1.00) from Tom Casper who indicated that this was a complete set.

Then in subsequent correspondence with Harry English he assured me that such a value existed and later stated that he had this value. So, I asked him for a rubbing, which he made (the original is discernable and that is about all), I am enclosing a zerox of it which is the best it will do.

X I do not have this token nor do I know if Tom Robinson has duplicates. You indicated some duplicates of Ark. OK I have not as yet found a copy of the 10¢ Oc. Br. Cummins State Farm or the 1.00 Tucker Rd. Br. and 1.00 Tucker Rd. Al.

I agree with you the \$150.00 for the \$1.00 Sing Sing is quite high.

As to the Sacramento Jail tokens I suppose ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> is most likley that they were used in Machines as you say.

I heard recently that the Colorado Prison Tokens were with-drawn from use and then last night I heard a newscast in which the Governor after an investigation concerning a recent riot there stated that he recommended the return to the use of these tokens. So, I guess we will have to just wait and see what happens.

I hear from Harry English frequently and it seems that he is always turning up some type of prison material.

Glad you received the \$1.00 Colorado red plastic and can use. I had picked up several duplicates last summer.

Regards,

*Chas*



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

May 27, 1975.

Dear Ag:

Received your letter of the 22nd in fine shape along with the rubbing of the Jefferson County Jail. Fine business as this gives further clues as to what may exist and what to look for and from where.

In a way I am glad it is the red Colorado \$1.00 plastic that you need as I was having some trouble in locating the blue. So enclosing the red \$1.00.

Thank for the information on the Sacramento tokens, hadn't tried to locate them in Album's books but sure enough they are in my copies, so with no marked value I presume they had a certain predetermined value to be used in the commissary. Right?

I suppose the existance of the 5¢ Ark Dept. of Corr. can be laid to rest as you say but I have a letter from your friend Harry English who says that he has a copy of this 5¢ token. That prompted my question to you.

Oh, yes, regarding the 1¢ Colorado Penitentiary value. None are known to have been made or issued.

Regarding the Ark value, enclosed is a letter from Tom Robinson that originally aroused my interest in their existance for what it is worth.

That is about it.

Regards,

*Chas*  
a dealer friend of mine said he saw a \$1.00 paper singing at the N.Y. show recently. They wanted 150¢ for it and he was reluctant to get it for me and I'm glad he didn't. pretty high price.



May 22, 1975

Dear Chas:

Received the token in fine shape, and I am grateful to you for it. Thank you very much.

Regarding the Sacramento County Branch Jail and Airport Road Camp, Sacramento County tokens, they are not transportation tokens but real honest to goodness jail tokens and are listed in Album's Catalog of California Trade Tokens, listed under Sacramento County as A5 and S4. If you have the book, fine; if not and you want it write Steve Album, Box 4039, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Now about the 5¢ Ark. Dept of Corr. scalloped aluminum, am sending you a copy of a letter which should lay the problem to rest. Mr. Robinson is a guard at the prison, I have known him for years, and he has kept me abreast of new tokens, coupon books, new facilities being built, and the like. You might want to put this in your reference file.

I appreciate your efforts in trying to find a copy of the blue plastic \$1.00 Colorado token, but I want to pay whatever it costs. You have done enough.

Sent a letter to Mr. Coy, also Mr. Buckley, in Kentucky trying to find a Jefferson County Jail token like we saw in San Jose. Have you had any luck? How about English, has he got one?



May 22, 1975

Dear Chas:

Received the token in fine shape, and am grateful to you for it. Thank you very much.

Regarding the Sacramento County Branch Jail and the Airport Road Camp, Sacramento County tokens, they are not transportation tokens but real, honest to dooness jail tokens. They are listed in Album's Catalog of California Trade Tokens under Sacramento County as A5 and S4. If you have the book, fine; if not and want a copy write Stephen Album, Box 4039, Berkeley CA 94704.

X  
Now about the 5¢ Ark. Dept. of Corr. scalloped aluminum, am sending you a copy of a letter which I got from Tom Robinson which should lay the problem to rest. He is a collector of Arkansas trade tokens and a guard at the prison. I have known him for years and he has kept me abreast of new tokens, coupon books, new prison facilities being built and the like. You might want to put this in your reference file.

I just looked up my Colorado prison tokens, and here is what I find: (all plastic with Colorado State coat of arms and simple denomination on reverse): 5¢ red, 10¢ yellow, 25¢ red, 50¢ yellow and \$1.00 blue. So I find I have the blue but missing the other color of \$1.00 token, as I understood there were two colors of the \$1.00. Also do not have a 1¢. Was a 1¢ issued? Am glad I looked because I had been mistaken when I talked to you.

Also I find I have a Jefferson County Jail 1¢ aluminum among my mavericks. Now I know what state it is in. And we can surmise that they must have had a set of tokens at the Jefferson County Jail, which gives us something to look for. (Also it seems I am neglecting my prison tokens and should look at them more. Intend to have them with me next time we meet.) Am enclosing a rubbing of it.

About all for now. Good hunting.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

May 17, 1975.

Dear Agnar:

Received your letter of the 10th. And from your recounting earlier days in court sounds like those were "the good ol days". I can sure understand how most everything is ~~one~~ so differently now-a-days and sometimes wonder if it is for the best.

Enclosing the token that I ran across the other day and to which I referred in my last letter and which will partially repay you for the 5¢ Al. Nevada token that you sent me recently. Thanks again.

While in San Jose I recall we kicked around information on two California tokens but I don't beleive I picked up the "use" or "locations" they were used. These are the white metal 16 mm uniface (1) Sacramento County Branch Jail and (2) Airport Road Camp Sacramento County. Do you have any information on them? Some have wondered if they might be a transportaton token instead of a work token.

English has stated that he had a 5¢ Arkansas Dept of Corr. (4 scalloped aluminum) which I had picked up I beleive from Tom Casper that there was no such critter. And of course I guess it is still correct that this set was never issued.

I had high hopes of getting you without much trouble the \$1.00 Blue plastic Colorado as a friend of mine has a contact with a prison work group near Golden, but he was here to a token meeting last thursday and he tells me that his contact said that they had recalled the tokens and he beleived that they were to destroy them. So it looks like if this is true it is going to be a little more diifficult to locate a copy. However I have a friend in Canon City who I have yet to check with and I I havent't given up as yet. Mabe he can come up with one, will sure try.

Yes, I hear from English quite frequently, in fact I now have two letters from him which I must answer today as have had them a couple of weeks and just didn't get the job done

Sincerely,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Sac SP4  
Sac A5  
HAWK



May 10, 1975

Dear Chas.:

Glad you had a nice trip to Phoenix. It is one of my favorite cities, although I haven't been there for five years or so. In the past my Judge and I used to hold court there, and in Prescott. It was very hot in Arizona in the old days, and they only had one judge for the entire state -- now they have 6 -- and this judge was a good friend of my judge and they used to trade off work for the month of August every year. So every year we would go to Arizona and the Arizona judge would spend August at the beach in California.

It was hot in those days, no air conditioning, so during August they would hold court in Prescott, in the mountains, and the lawyers would drive up from Phoenix to hold court where it was cool. We had a lot of fun, not too much work, and everybody enjoyed themselves. I suppose things are different now. It is a big city with all big city problems.

What I meant to write about was the token you sent the rubbing of. Yes, I can use it. Let me know what is involved. Working on my CCC tokens so haven't had a chance to look at myprison tokens. Have you heard from English lately?

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

May 4, 1975.

Dear Agnar:

Just returned from Phoenix Saturday and found your letter letter of April 21 st.

We had a nice trip and the weather was favorable and not too hot.

Referring to your letter. Thank you very much for the 5¢ Aluminum Nevada. I hadn't seen this issue before and as you say it is the only ones (value) that you have so it adds another space to my collection.

Again the 5¢ and 50¢ Brass Alabama is all that I have ran across. You did not mention the 5¢ blue and 50¢ cream Dept of corrections & Institutions. As you know these are listed by Burns. My 5¢ blue has the 5¢ in white in center with all other markings if it had any worn off or removed. the reverse seems to have been smooth in the center as any design didn't stick too well. The 50¢ cream has the seal in gold of Alabama somewhat incuse so it kind of stuck better. I do not have a copy of the 1¢ red or 5¢ blue of Atmore Prison Farm. The 50¢ is somewhat similar to above mentioned 50¢ piece but nothing on the back. This same applies to the 1¢, 5¢ and 50¢ Board of Corrections ALA again nothing on the back of 50¢ I do not have the 1¢ red or the 5¢ blue plastic. The Atmore and Board of Corrections cream plastic seem to be in good shape and not a reject. But never know.

Mabe they didn't make a Tennessee \$1.00 with a star cutout. Think English brought it up but am not sure that he has one.

I had checked my 25¢ Sing Sing and decided there was a difference but I had mostly concluded that the T and F were larger, but now I can see that the whole word is somewhat larger. Thanks for the information.



Brass

Do you need this token? will try and see how I do on making a rubbing. The token is in fine shape so it should do alright

I am still waiting for the blue \$1.00 Colorado Prison token and will send on to you when one comes thru.

Thanks again for the Nevada Aluminum, Hope I can dig up something that you can use before long.

Regards,

Wright #40



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6 February 7, 1975  
7

8 Dear Chas:

9 Nice to hear from you. At present am  
10 planning on being at San Jose for the Jamboree,  
11 and hope things turn out so you can also and  
will be seeing you there. It should be a nice  
trip during that time of the year.

12 You ask about the prison book. Am afraid  
13 not much has been done. Was in touch with Mr.  
14 English at one time and mentioned it to him. I  
15 think he has a lot of material, especially on  
16 the paper (coupons, cards, etc.) used in prisons  
17 and is more knowledable than I on that part. It  
18 is difficult to know just where to start and  
19 how. Should it be tokens only? Do you include  
20 Burns book or just add to it? Should tokens and  
21 paper be combined? Lots of questions. I would  
22 like to work with some one and collaborate rather  
23 than undertaking it myself. If we could ever get  
24 some prison token collectors together am sure we  
25 could make a beginning.

26 As for the "V" c/s on the New York Prison  
tokens, I am doing the same as you are, but trying  
to get specimens of both. And, as you say, it is  
getting increasingly harder to find them.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

January 24, 1975

Dear Agnar:

Received your letter in December and just didn't get around to answering right away and it got pushed aside. Sorry.

No problem on the Journal ~~Junior~~ Republic token just happened to run across it in a bunch of material and thought I would inquire.

As to the counterstamped "V" on the New York prison tokens: The only copies that I have I have sort of identified along with the other prison material and for now will let it fill the spaces that are becoming increasingly hard to fill.

Reference your letter of January 7: I remember vaguely of the article, clipping of which you enclosed, but at the time I hadn't become too actively engaged in tokens so I am blank as to the outcome. Thought I would get to our token meeting last week and do some inquiring but didn't make it.

Mabe your ad in METCA newsletter is paying off, sounds like it.

I am planning also on attending the Jamboree. Thought we might drive out, but if the gas situation changes probably will have to skip it anyway hope to make it.

Regards,



P. S.

Oh yes, I have been meaning to inquire how the prison book that I believe you had mentioned you would like to publish is coming.



January 7, 1975

Dear Chas:

Hope you and Mrs. Carter had a nice holiday. And lots of luck for 1975 in token hunting.

Have been fortunate the last part of the year getting some CCC tokens and circus tokens, but no prison tokens. I guess it runs in streaks and maybe prison tokens will be next.

In going through my stuff ran across the following item and thought it might be of interest to you or your fellow-collectors in Colorado.

Am planning on going to the Jamboree this April in San Jose. Hope you can make it too.

Regards,



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**EVELYN SWEENEY**

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER  
U. S. POST OFFICE AND COURT HOUSE  
LOS ANGELES 12, CALIFORNIA  
MADISON 5-7411



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220



1924-74 WILDERNESS  
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY  
FOREST SERVICE-USA



AGNAR WAHLBERG,  
1470 SOUTH CALLE MARCUS,  
PALM SPRINGS,

CA. 92262

*Cleaning out my den and ran  
across this. Thought it might be of  
interest to you*

*Ans'd from  
5-29-74  
BbL*



December 4, 1974

Dear Chas.

Nice to hear from you and glad you are picking up things, albeit slowly. Same here.

The rubbing you sent is a Journal Junior Republic token, and I do collect them. However, I do have this one. If you have any money in it and want to be reimbursed, will be glad to do it. It would be a duplicate.

You mentioned you had a couple of New York prison tokens with the V counterstamp. The V is for "void," and was used to cancel the tokens after they were withdrawn. I have tried to get a complete set, but only have found two of them to date. If you are not going to bother with them I would trade.

Thanks again for writing. Have a nice holiday season.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

November 27, 1974.

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Yes, I have been considering METCA ever since it was started several years ago but just never seemed to get around to joining. But after seeing their monthly publication I think I can get something out of it, possibly correspondence or trades.

Sounds like you have had a very busy 1974 so far with more to come during the holidays.

My collection is increasing slowly but anyway it is fun to hunt for something.

Ran across this token (rubbing) the other day. Is this what you collect in the Junior Republic line? Do you need this item? Don't see many such items or the CCC that you collect.

Guess there are getting to be too many token collectors as almost everywhere I go I usually hear that tokens are scarce especially this summer and they are hoping for a better winter season.

Thanks for letting me know that you are back and maybe I can find something to trade with you one of these days.



P.S.

I believe you asked some time ago if I had any of the New York with a "V" counterstamped on them. I have only found the 5¢ Rd. Al City Prison-Manhattan and 25¢ Rd. Al. City Prison Brooklyn with these markings.



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

March 13, 1974.

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Thank you for your letter of the 28 Feb in which you enclosed copies of letter to Harry English and your letter to the Colorado Penitentiary.

Have made notes of the information you sent to Harry as I like to keep a running account of what exists and what to look for that I do not have already.

It would appear that a catalog listing this type of material would be of great help and of general interest. Hope some day such a publication can be made. Harry was in on the Colorado Token Book with Lee Nott and Jim Wright. ~~Make~~ he will get someone interested in doing the same for Prison Material.

In order not to mislead you on the Maine MSP, I had indicated 25¢, this is a guess as I have the 10¢ and I have assumed the piece is a 25¢ however he has never said specifically.

Regarding the New York Dept. of Corrections Brooklyn 25¢, there is counterstamped a V on the reverse. 9 mm high. "V"

Probably see you at the Jamboree, either in the social room or by message. I will be wearing a American Tax Token Society badge (Red) for identification. ATTS meeting 11-12 Sunday "Secretary" Ribbon

Enclosed a clipping that I ran across the other day, thought you might be interested.

The St. Louis MSI is 22 mm brass, rubbing as indicated. The MSI has been confirmed to be MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTE.

All for now and may see you next week.

Sincerely,



*Chas*



PRISON

February 28, 1974

Dear Chas.

Thanks for your letter, and there are several reasons why I hurry to answer it, not the least of which is that this is the last day of the 8¢ rate.

Thanks also for Mr. Casper's address. Will write him. Was interested in your list of prison and jail tokens. Am interested in the City of St. Louis MSI 5¢ rd. Could you send me a rubbing? What is MSI? Noted Harry English's list he is holding for you. I also have them for trade, all but the 25¢ Maine, which I need.

Look on all your New York Dept. of Corrections, Manhattan and Brooklyn, and see if you have any counter-stamped with a V. If so, let me know which.

Am enclosing two attachments, copy of a letter to Harry English which is for your information and will save a letter and hopefully give you some background information; the second a letter from the Warden at Colorado State Penitentiary, showing how easy it is to get these tokens. He was very cooperative; don't know if he still is in power. Also I have found writing direct to most institutions you can either pay for what they use or will give you samples. Maybe that is what your party in Canon City is doing.

Am glad to hear you plan to go to the Jamboree at San Jose. I have a sister that lives in Fremont (CA), which is about 15 minutes from San Jose, and was planning to visit her and also take in the Jamboree. No doubt they will have a courtesy booth where people can leave messages. In any event, will look you up if I go. Am planning to, but sometimes the best laid plans .....

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Feb. 22, 1974.

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Any delay in answering presents no problem here as I am pretty slow sometimes myself but this time I sure had planned on having a different answer to what I am going to have to give you at this time.

*and copy of letter*  
*★*  
I am supposed to get a few of the Colorado Prison tokens from an arrangement that I had made in December with a party in Canon City to deliver them to a collector here in Denver and I understand this was done but this party at the Jan token meeting said she forgot to bring them to the meeting so I had hoped this would be done last night at the token club meeting. Putno, she said then that she had mislaid them so didn't bring them, I can only justify this in the light that she as well as myself are getting tokens in order as we plan on going to the Token Jamboree in San Jose on March 22-24.

So I just can't offer you, as yet at least, these tokens for trade, but I ~~have~~ <sup>believe</sup> without a doubt that eventually I will get them and I understand that the sets include the red \$1.00 and no blue so this might help you out ~~as~~ you say you have the blue. Anyway I am going to have to wait until possibly in late April before I am sure of what I will end up with. Sorry that it is so complicated, May be able to improve.

As to the Colorado Token Book again bad news, had inquired if an extra copy was available previously and saw Jim Wright (one of the authors) last night and as they only had printed 200 copies they have been long gone. So don't seem to be much I can do to get you a copy unless I run across someone that wants to get rid of their copy. Will keep a lookout.

Referring to your mention of Harry English, have enclosed a zerox copy of the tokens and scrip that I have at present, you will note on the last sheet a bunch of tokens listed and with (English) after them, which indicated that he is holding them for me to come up with some item that he collects to trade for them. So you can see I got a problem also in finding material he can use.

Haven't had a chance to check into the availability of the MRC hospital tokens but plan on getting into it later this week.

As to Mr. Casper: attached is his address from the corner of his envelope. He has been very helpful to me.

Sorry about the density of the type, but I now believe I have corrected the ribbon feed.

Will see what I can come up with from San Jose and let you know later.

Sincerely

*Chas*



February 5, 1974

Dear Chas:

Sorry for the delay in answering yours of January 10th but have had a houseful for the past two weeks. My sister and brother in law were visiting, which was a nice change as I hadn't seen her in ten years.

Also I just heard from Harry English but have not had a chance to answer. Hope to in a few days.

The information you supplied in your January 10th letter was most informative, i.e., the listing from the book of Colorado Merchant tokens. Since Mr. English is interested in Colorado tokens, perhaps I should get a copy of this book in order to know what to look for. Also if you should have something that Mr. English might be interested in, we could trade so I could use it with him. I don't know what he has to trade me, but he might have something. So if you can pick up the book will pay you for it or trade for it.

Have been going through my stuff and I find that I have a set of the plastic Colorado prison tokens that you mention, 5 red, 10 yellow, 25 red, 50 yellow and blue \$1.00. I do not have the red \$1.00 and would like to get a copy. In fact, I would use a full set. You might give me a listing -- if not too much work -- of what you have and then I can see what you need in the way of trading.

I used to correspond with Mr. Casper -- I believe he was from Milwaukee -- but have lost his address and would like to get in touch again. Can you help?

Thanks again for the information. Will be in touch.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Denver Colo.  
Jan. 10, 1974.

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

In reply to your letter of Jan. 7 I haven't heard from Harry English for some time, so I presume that he is as busy as everyone else at this time of the year.

Your reference to Colorado State Hospital and Mental Rehabilitation Center, as you may know a book of Colorado Merchants Tokens has been put out last year and I looked in it under Canon City, Pueblo and Fort Logan and only under the Pueblo listing I find the following, (which is the natural place since the Mental Hospital is in Pueblo.

Not sure what you have but here it is:

MAILED  
P1195 Colorado/State/Hospital  
Good for / 5¢ / in trade 21½ Al. Oct. 1  
" 5¢ 21½ Al. Oct. 2  
" 25¢ 25 Al. Oct. 1  
" \$1.00 31 Al Oct. 1

Don't know what the difference is in the first two 5¢ but that is the way it is listed.

P1990 MRC  
Good for/5¢/in trade 22 Al 8sc 3  
" 25¢ 29 Al. 8sc 3  
" \$1.00 35 Al. 11sc 3  
(Mental Rehabilitation Center)

Not sure if the above is of any information that you do not already have but thought I would pass it on to you until you hear from Harry.

4444  
You mentioned that you did not know of any Prison Tokens from Colorado. I presume you are aware of the set of which I made a rubbing at the bottom of this page of the 50¢ the designs on all the others are similar except of course, smaller and larger are to the size of token. They are as follows: 5¢ red plastic, 10¢ yellow plastic, 25¢ red plastic, 50¢ Yellow plastic, and \$1.00 red plastic, there is also a light blue \$1.00 which was issued I understand to stop counterfeiting of the red.

My reference to the "set" of Wyoming is a misnomer but was used by my friend in Cheyenne, who referred to them as a set of four without the 5¢, which she said she was unable to get. Thanks to you I now have the same values that you indicated that you have. A letter from Harry English of Dec. 12 says that he has heard of a 50¢ value in the Wyoming Tokens, but that he has not seen any of the values or does he have them. My friend in Cheyenne says in her letter, that they were issued in 1962 and taken out of use in 1963 after it was discovered that the Prison had lost over \$8,000 in one years use from counterfeiting.



Hope these comments will be of value to you  
Sincerely,

*Chas*



January 7, 1974

Dear Chas:

I have your letter and am glad you gave Mr. English my name, as I am interested in finding people who collect prison tokens -- which is very few. I do hope he contacts me, as I would like to check some Colorado tokens that I have for the Colorado State Hospital and Mental Rehabilitation Center, which I would like to know if they are of a prison type. I do not know of any prison tokens from Colorado, and want to confirm this. Will wait and see.

Am glad you like the 5¢ Wyoming. Incidentally, you mentioned that a friend sent you a "set" of Wyoming prison tokens. I have rechecked my set and find I am short a 25¢ token. In other words, my set consists of a 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, \$1.00 and \$5.00. Am wondering if they made a 50¢ token. Can you help? Also what information does your friend have as to when these tokens were in use. My understanding is that it was a very short time, but I have no definite information.

Am still sorting and hope to complete my segregation of my tokens soon, so I know where I stand.

I just happened to think you are in Denver. What can you tell me of Colorado prison tokens. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dec. 24, 1973

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Received your letter of Dec. 18 in fine shape and am pleased that you can use the token that I had enclosed.

And was I delighted with your enclosure of the 5¢ Wyoming. Thank you very much, I did not expect such a surprise as that in return.

I only wish I had something else to send you in return as I feel that I got the best of the trade. However will keep an eye for the material in which you are interested.

You had mentioned CCC tokens and I can say that I can't recall seeing any such tokens, either on auction lists, coin shows or the like. So I wonder where they are and what became of them.

Thank you again for the exchange and hope to hear from you again when you have completed your inventory.

Oh, yes I had mentioned that you were working on a supplement to Burns to a fellow collector, a Harry English, 315 Grove Ave., Falls Church, Va. 22046 who is an ardent prison and Colo. token collector and he asked for your address as he indicated he would like to contact you. and since your name was published in the TAMS roster I assumed you would have no objection that I pass it on to him. So you may be hearing from him.

Sincerely,





December 18, 1973

Dear Chas:

First off, don't send any more self-addressed stamped envelopes. Am only too happy to correspond with you and will pay my own postage. Am sure you will find the same feeling among others.

You hit the jackpot the first time, as far as finding something to trade me. I have a similar one to the one you sent, only it has a "1" on the reverse, this having a "2" so it is something that I must look into, which is what I am always looking for. I like to do research now that I have time. Am sure you will find other things to trade if you look.

I think I mentioned also CCC tokens to you before, which I am most anxious to get if I do not have them. Since there must have been thousands of them from 5000 camps, and I only have about 30, almost any new one unearthed would be of help to me.

Now for a trade. Am going to surprise you. Am sending a 5¢ of the Wyoming State Penitentiary to complete your set. Outside of mine, yours now is the only complete set of Wyoming I know of. You are off to a good start.

Regards,

HAVE  
BOTH  
DOWN  
FORM 5-4-00  
WW



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dec. 11, 1973.

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Thanks for your reply to my letter of inquiry concerning Prison Tokens.

It is suprising is it not, as to the amont of material that will accumulate for almost any hobby that one is in.

However I find it most enjoyable to sort through and bring about some sort of organization to the chaos.

Enclosing the "clown" item to which you referred from my rubbings that you might be able to use. I don't have much in it, so if it is worth any of the minimum prison items to you, such as scrip or any lesser item that is fine with me.

Since I have so few duplicates I feel that any thing you might select I would need.

Incidentally, a friend sent me a set of Wyoming the other day which is short of the 5¢ value, can you tell me the color of this value? I assume the material is the same as the remainder of the set.

Looking forward to hearing from you later when you get your list of duplicate material in order.

Again thanks for your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chas. L. Carter", with a stylized flourish at the end.



December 1, 1973

Dear Mr. Carter:

Thanks for your recent letter.

Am really enjoying my retirement but didn't realize how much junk I had accumulated in 42 years and it is slow going through it and trying to know what I have, and where to put it all. But am getting there and by the first of the year hope to be on top of things.

Also my tokens are scattered all over and am slowing going through them and sorting them out to see what I have in the various catagories that I collect. No doubt will dispose of duplicates so as to make room for what I do want to save. One of the first things I plan to do is check with Mr. Casper to see if he has something I don't have and hope to get on the supplement of prison tokens in a few months.

Of the rubbings you sent the only one I can use is the small brass with "clown" on it. The rest are foreign carnival and show tokens and I do not save them as there are too many of them. I have a lot of them now and don't know what to do with. Now for a trade of the "clown" if you will let me know what you need, or what prison you want, will try to send you one. Later as I get my stuff segregated will make up a list of duplicates and prices and send you one.

FOUND  
5-4-00  
TAW

Am pleased to know you have Burns book. It will be of some help, but as you say it is rather old, and the tokens he lists are very scarce because they are old. Will be looking forward to hearing from you again.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Denver, Colo.  
Nov. 26, 1973.

Mr. Agnar Wahlberg,  
1470 So. Calle Marcus,  
Palm Springs, Ca. 92262

Dear Mr. Wahlberg:

Thank you for your reply to my letter concerning  
Prison Tokens.

And as you indicated I should follow in 6 or 8 weeks,  
here I am again, (since I received your letter Sept. 15.)

Hope you are enjoying your retirement and as I have  
heard from Mr. Casper in Milwaukee that you have a very  
extensive collection of prison tokens, the supplement  
to Mr. Burns book that you are considering putting  
together would be quite interesting and helpful.

I am just starting to form a collection of Prison  
material so have quite a ways to go. As stated in my  
letter if you should have any duplicate for sale that  
I could use I would be interested. I do not have  
much in the way of material that you collect however  
enclosed rubbing of what I believe are carnival tokens  
that I have that might interest you if you do not now  
have. Have nothing in the way of CCC camp or Junior  
Republic tokens.

Incidentally, I have obtained a copy of Mr. Burns booklet  
from Carnegie Museum. And since it is to 1960 and  
somewhat limited in information a supplement would  
be welcome.

Sincerely,



*all must  
take first step*

*Keep eyes  
open - never know*

*Make  
some rubbing*



NOTE MY NDEW ADDRESS:

AGNAR WAHLBERG  
1470 So. Calle Marcus  
Palm Springs CA 92262

Dear Mr. Carter:

Am most pleased to hear from another prison token collector, as they are far and few between. Your letter came at an inappropriate time, which I will explain in a minute, but it is not serious, as you will see.

I have been collecting prison and jail tokens for about five years, ever since I got hold of Mr. Burns book about prison tokens. (I assume you have it; if not you need it.) This book started me off and it wasn't long before I found that there were many more that were not listed. So I thought it would be a good idea to update this book, adding what I had found, and publish a supplement. This I would do when I retired. Well, I will be retiring the end of this month, and after I get things together, will sort out my prison tokens and see what can be done. I have my tokens in Palm Springs and I am still in Los Angeles, and I won't get to them for a little while. This means I cannot tell you what I have as duplicate until I do. This is the reason for the statement in the first paragraph.

I will keep your letter as a reminder, but would suggest you also send me a follow up in about 6 or 8 weeks and see where I stand in the matter. Also, might say I collect CCC Camp tokens, circus and carnival tokens and Junior Republic tokens. If you have any them, would like to have a listing.

Regards,



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Denver Colo.  
Sept. 10. 1973.

Mr. A. Wahlgren.  
432 U.S. Court House  
Los Angeles Calif. 90012

Dear Mr. Wahlgren:-

I became interested in collecting U.S.  
Prison Tokens some months ago.

Having seen your listing in the TAMMS  
Roster, I am writing to see if  
you have any extra or duplicate  
prison tokens for sale or trade  
for material you could use.

Will you please drop me a line  
in the enclosed S.A.E.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe St.  
Denver, Colo. 80220


TAMMS      AVA  
#      #  
2366      1025



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7 April 10, 1976

8 Dear Chas.:

9 Had a wonderful time at San Jose -- got 9 new CCCs --  
10 and had a nice trip home. Am sorry to learn that it is  
11 on shakey ground; I was just getting used to it, and it  
12 is so easy for me from Palm Springs, just a short hop. Do  
13 hope it continues. I was entertaining some friends at an  
14 11:00 o'clock brunch and got away too late to attend the  
15 meeting, so am not sure of the status of the Jamboree.  
16 Will just wait and see. In June there will be some token  
17 dealers at the Long Beach Coin Club, which I will attend  
18 to see how it is. Will let you know if you don't attend.

19  With reference to Gantner's article and rubbing of  
20 the token, I consider the article the most comprehensive I  
21 have ever seen. And thorough too. Originally when I first  
22 started out, I had the idea of a book showing the tokens used  
23 and a rather short but full resume of the institution using  
24 them, sort of like chapters. Then when that fellow from Coin  
25 World (can't think of his name) wrote us, I had visions of  
something similar. But it is still a good idea, and there are  
enough of us now collecting prison stuff to probably get some-  
thing going. But that Harry English is still a puzzle. He  
has a lot of information, but can't seem to shake it loose  
from him. Maybe I am wrong. I hope so. Think about it.

26  
27 Speaking of English, some time back you sent me a copy  
28 of a note dated 12 March (no year) from him with some rubbings  
29 including a Montana State Prison Deer Lodge, which he stated  
30 was for trade. What happened, did you get it? I am interested  
31 in it if you are not. He also asked some questions about a  
32 couple of other urbbings on the same page. Did anything come  
33 of it?

34  
35 Regards,



NY  
Siny Siny  
2 types 25¢

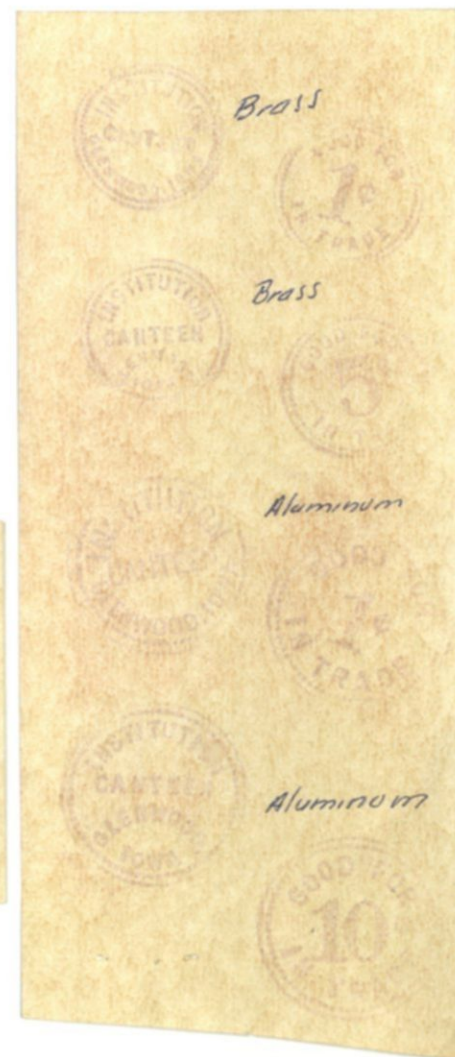
---

Just an example of  
problem I have  
here are Xeny off  
of Just Ark -

Sinye you are  
interested in Turkey  
State

Siny







May 2, 1977

Dear Chas.:

Was happy to hear from you and that you are all right. I certainly can appreciate the problems you have had; they have touched us too. Had a death and a birth within the past 30 days, although we have been fortunate in that respect. Am afraid it is something that comes to all of us sooner or later. So every day I try to live it up as best I can. So much for my thoughts.

I appreciate the rubbings you sent; it so happens I have them, all but the Madison Street Jail, which is a nice one. But it is a puzzle to me. Thinking it was a Chicago token, I looked it up in Vacketta's book and, lo and behold, I find a Madison Street Circus with the same numerals 4716. If you have his book it is on page 78.

Regarding the Turney, Tenn. tokens, I do not have a one. Have had some correspondence with Dave Mullins of Nashville, a Tennessee specialist (copy enclosed) which adds some interesting sidelights to what he has in the way of Tennessee institution tokens.

Lately I have been fortunate in acquiring some material, notably the complete set of Sing Sing currency, \$1, \$5 and \$10. Also acquired a Montana State prison item, which is among the rubbings I am sending. It is interesting because the 2x2 it came in had the word "English" on it. I do not know if he had sent it in to be auctioned off, or if he had the highest bid up to mine. My guess, from reading your letter of April 27, 1976 where he states he had one for trade, is that it was his. The Work House token with the "T" I do believe to be a Tennessee item. It is similar to the La Grange tokens. However, Mullins is unable to help me. The South Dakota Penitentiary token I have for trade, although am sure you have it. I also acquired the 25¢ Girls Industrial School token of Honolulu, which completes the set of 25¢ and 50¢.

About all for now.



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

April 7, 1977.

Dear Agnar:

I see I have a couple of unanswered letters from you, so will try and get up to date.

The last year has been so mixed up for us that I did not get much done on correspondence or any of my hobbies. We have two in-law couples that have had a rough time lately with their health. One brother-in-law and my wife's sister here in Denver have been and still are in very poor health and we are having to be at their home in west Denver several times a week trying to keep their spirits up, which is pretty hard at times. And another brother-in-law and my wife's sister in Mesa Az have had health problems for almost a year now, his was a terminal case and he was buried here in Boulder Co. last week. My wife and I were down there for (Mesa) several weeks while he was in the hospital. Well, enough of that. there is some relief in sight, I hope.

Referring to one of your letters. I have not found any more of the La Grange tokens, (only the 5¢), and am wondering if you have the full set of Turney, Tenn. 1-5-10-25-50 and 1.00 ?

Referring to your last letter of October 6, Glad you could use the Carnival & Circus Guide. Sounds, with your obtaining the Riggs collection, quite a collection of this material.

I haven't had much luck in adding to my Prison collection, however will send rubbings of the items that I have acquired since I last wrote to you. I suppose you have these as they are not new items.

Your friend Doty Coy, Richmond Ky finally traded me the set of Anamosa Iowa. Also I got some Texas paper items from him.

All for now. Sorry to take so long to reply, maybe I will get caught up sometime.

Sincerely,





Chas. L. Carter  
21 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

April 27, 1976.

Dear Ag:

Glad that you found the 9 CCC's in San Jose. I didn't find too much but had an enjoyable trip anyway and chatting with you and the various other fellows, however the attendance was rather sparse. I wonder also what the outcome will be for future gatherings.

Sorry to be so long in answering but have been in Arizona most of the past month, did however get to TNA in Amarillo last week, picked up a few medals that I needed. And some information on Prison ~~materials~~ items, will follow up a little and let you know if anything develops.

I thought you might enjoy the newspaper article that I received from Gantner on the House of Correction.


Inotice a request in TAMS by Lemke of Krause Pub for information on prison tokens scrip etc.

Yes that copy of English letter in which he said he had the Montana for trade, I had received the day or so before coming to San Jose and the copy I got for you in the hotel office was not a very good reproduction. I have written Harry to the effect that I do not have anything in which he is interested that I can use for trade. As to the other rubbings of "State Penal Institution" his comments are to the effect that he is reasonably sure they are from Florida ( Raiford).

The small rubbing below I beleive is of the token used in a Chicago Jail.

The other rubbing is a fairly common token and a dealer in Ohio told me the token was used in the Cincinnati Jail.

Sincerely,



Madison St. Jail  
4716  
(Sq. Al.)

5  
Jail  
(Rd. AL.)

*How about  
enclosed Zerox  
on Hanning  
tokens?  
\$50, 25, 100*



WRIGHT CIN. O.



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Tuesday  
March 30

Dear Agnar:

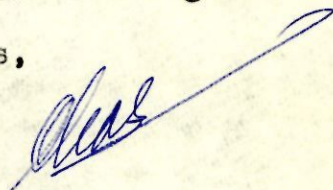
Just a short note. Hope you made it back in fine shape.

Was nice to see you again and compare notes.

Enclosing a copy of the Zerox ~~of~~ the newspaper clipping I mentioned of the House of Correction in Franklin Wisc, and rubbing of token used there. As received from Bob Gantner, Port Washington.

Regards,

*Very interesting & thorough  
no mention of tokens*

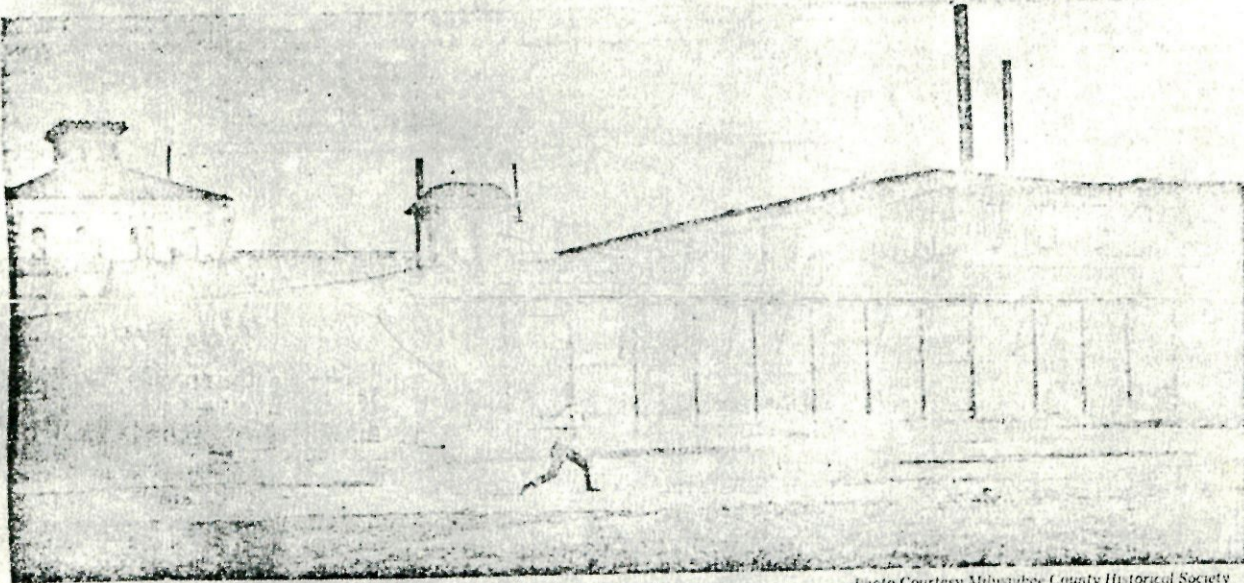




# THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

TV Listings on Page 4 — Classified Ads Start on Page 8

Monday, February 2, 1976



"HOUSE OF REFUGE" — This is a 1902 photograph of Milwaukee's first House of Correction — originally called the House of Refuge — which was built in 1866 on the South Side at W. Windlake Ave., near W. Beecher St.

Outside the 16 foot wooden fence was a baseball diamond on which South Siders played games against various teams. If a player hit the hardball over the fence, an inmate would retrieve it. To get the ball

back, the players had to give the inmate a package of chewing tobacco. The institution was condemned as unsanitary in the early 1900s and replaced by a new facility on Hopkins Rd. in Granville.

## House of Correction Has Had 3 Homes

By Edward S. Kerstein  
of The Journal Staff

Concern over crime, petty thievery, prostitution, public drunkenness and juvenile delinquency is not a present day phenomenon.

Lawlessness and social misconduct reached such proportions here in the 19th century that the legislature in 1853 authorized Milwaukee County to build a penal institution to be called "the House of Refuge."

After it was completed on the South Side 110 years ago, it was officially called the House of Correction. Inmates were housed in the pioneer penal institution for 51 years before the county established a new modern prison farm

### My South Side



complex in 1917 in the old Town of Granville.

The legislative act provided that the prison be used for the safekeeping, reformation and employment of persons convicted of felonies, misdemeanors and ordinance violations.

#### Girls and Boys, Too

The act also provided that it furnish care, instruction and apprenticeships to boys under 18 and girls under 16

who otherwise would be idle in the County Jail.

It was not until September, 1858, that the County Board voted 12 to 2 to comply with the 1853 law by appointing three of its supervisors, Nathan Howes, J. A. Phelps and Patrick Walsh, to obtain plans for the House of Refuge.

The three soon reported that construction of the prison should be undertaken quickly because the pros-

pects of "a coming hard winter make it probable that petty crimes will increase" and because the County Jail would not provide adequate facilities for the expected stream of lawbreakers.

#### Construction Delayed

Despite this admonition, however, its construction was delayed until 1865, after a special committee headed by Charles J. Kern visited prisons in Rochester, N. Y., Buffalo, N. Y., and Chicago, and drafted recommendations to be incorporated in the construction plans of A. L. Schmidtner, widely known Milwaukee architect of public buildings.

The House of Refuge was built on the east side of W.

Windlake Ave. near W. Beecher St.

The main building was a two story brick structure. It contained offices, library, laundry, kitchen and prisoners' quarters.

#### Chair Factory

A chair factory connected with the prison was a two story wooden structure with engine room and three departments and containing machinery for the different processes in the manufacture of chairs.

The prison, situated on high ground, had 160 cells, each being 7½ feet high, 9 feet long and 3½ feet wide.

The first prisoner was received Feb. 12, 1866, and during that first year 238 prisoners were cared for.

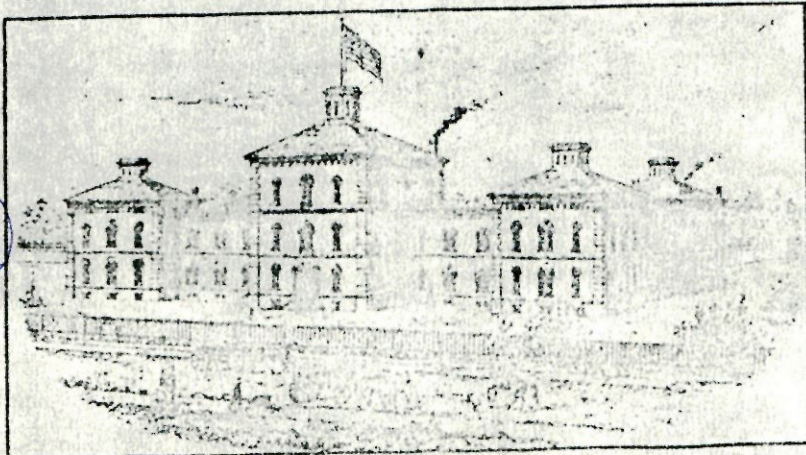
Edward McGarry served as the prison's first superintendent, and he officially called the institution the House of Correction. He was succeeded by Daniel Kennedy, who directed the facility until June, 1878.

#### One of the Best

Penologists hailed the institution as one of the best in the country. The buildings were heated with steam, and inmates were supplied with pure water from Lake Michigan through the Milwaukee waterworks, although originally wells had been dug on the extensive grounds.

Kennedy reported to the County Board in 1872 that boarding and clothing a prisoner cost 25 cents a day and

Turn to South, page 6, col. 1



This engraving of the original House of Correction was included in the 1872 report of the institution's operations to the County Board.



obv.

(HOUSE LETTERING IN WHITE)



Rev.

22 MM  
RED PLASTIC  
(Franklin Intisc)



# Prison Was a Pioneer Institution

From page 1

the employment of the men in the chair factory was rapidly becoming a source of revenue to the county.

"As a means of discipline and for the promotion of their physical and mental welfare, no better employment could be found," said Kennedy.

## Report on Prison

The Wisconsin Board of Charities and Reform viewed the institution in 1871 and reported:

"The men in the chair factory, generally, had a look of comfort and contentment and seemed to be doing their work with a will. Except that there was no conversation, we would hardly have supposed we were anywhere else than in a well regulated manufacturing establishment in some New England Village.

"We regard this institution as a credit to the people of Milwaukee County, and it shows that more than ordinary attention has been paid to the wants and care of the criminals in their midst, and the fact that so good an institution is found at the commencement of our investigations is a source of sincere gratification."

## Wooden Fence

Kennedy told the County Board in 1872 that he had spent \$608.55 for a 16 foot high wooden fence around the prison yard.

During its first six years of operation, 2,230 inmates — 1,522 male, 308 female — were confined in the House of Correction from seven days to three years.

Three hundred thirty-nine were 20 years old or younger, and a dozen were over 70.

Most common offenses for which inmates were committed were:

Drunkenness, 305; vagrancy, 390; larceny, 364; drunkenness and disorderly conduct, 249; assault and battery, 189; burglary, 22; and threatening to kill, 9.

Nine persons were committed for keeping houses of ill fame, 8 for being inmates of houses of ill fame, and 5 for being inmates of disorderly houses. One inmate served a term for poisoning a horse, another for torturing a horse.

## Prisoner's Occupations

Among the inmates confined in the prison's first six years were 507 laborers, 236 sailors, 116 schoolboys, 113 farmers, 74 shoemakers, 61 carpenters, 58 soldiers, 54 painters, 34 printers, 38 blacksmiths, 32 tailors, 34 butchers, 27 machinists, 23 stonecutters, 15 peddlers, 14 teachers, 11 rappers, 9 cigarmakers, 6 ropemakers, 5 physicians, 4 wagonmakers, 3 newsboys and 2 lawyers.

The number of inmates increased steadily each year. For example, in 1880 the institution received 1,022 — 950 male, 72 female. In 1916, the last full year of its existence on the South Side, 2,976 inmates — 2,768 male, 207 female — were received. The institution, however, cared for 3,247 inmates that year because 259 males and 12 females were confined under previously imposed sentences.

## Juvenile Court

There was little distinction between the handling of child and adult offenders until the Legislature adopted a law in 1901 that created a Juvenile Court to hear cases involving delinquent and neglected children under 16. It also directed the county to establish separate detention facilities for juveniles.

To comply with the new law, the county confined wayward and neglected children at the House for the Friendless at 618 N. Van Buren St. until it erected a square, three-story Juvenile Detention Home at 1104 W. Calena St. in 1911.

During those years, the Juvenile Court was held in the police courtroom at City Hall. One of the judges who presided over the Juvenile Court in its infancy was District Judge N. B. Neelen, father of Circuit Judge Harvey L. Neelen.

## Extensive Repairs

The late William Henry Momsen, who had served as superintendent inspector of the House of Correction for 34 years, supervised many extensive repairs to the South Side prison complex and urged the county to acquire a new prison site.

Momsen, who became head of the institution in 1903, said in one of his annual reports:

"It is well known that the old institution is antiquated, no longer suited to the needs of a rapidly growing community and not in keeping with the enlightened spirit of progress pervading all American life, and also pervading penal institutions."

Momsen contracted for new toilet room facilities for male and female inmates "in place of the antiquated bucket system."

## New Icehouse

He also acquired a new icehouse to prevent spoilage of meat, a new factory engine, new boilers, new factory machinery to improve the production of chairs and benches and new hospital quarters for sick inmates.

Momsen also directed construction and painting of 300 feet of additional fence around the prison yard.

But Momsen, fieldmaster and referee, was most pleased with the new chair factory.

the year ending Dec. 31, 1917, for he was then in charge of the new House of Correction on Hopkins Rd. (now N. Hopkins St.) in the old Town of Granville.

## 420 Acres

The new facility, adjoining the northern limits of the old city of North Milwaukee, comprised 420 acres with its farm.

It included a chair factory, modern and complete administration building, mess hall with kitchen, bakery, laundry, cell houses and dormitories, hospital, school quarters, superintendent's dwelling, farm buildings and some 70 Holstein cattle, besides hogs and poultry.

B. Ogden Chisolm, a member of the Executive Committee of the New York Prison Association, was so impressed with the reinforced concrete buildings with red tile roofs that he called the \$1 million complex "the most modern of prisons, one of which Wisconsin can be justly proud."

## 4,000 Visitors

More than 4,000 persons visited the new institution the week of Nov. 11, 1917, prompting Momsen to propose vainly that the county allow general visitors to come there on certain days and charge them 25 cent admission, with the proceeds assigned to a prison library fund.

Five attempts were made to have Momsen ousted from his position, but he was given a clean bill of health each time — the last in 1974.

Momsen never liked the name House of Correction or the prisoners' name for it, "Momsen's Hotel," but both persisted during his long tenure at the original and second site.

He preferred that the Hopkins Rd. complex be called Granville Farms, but the County Board did not adopt that name.

## Narrow Escape

An experience at the South Side prison that Momsen often recalled involved the narrow escape he had when an insane inmate broke away from guards and sneaked into Momsen's office. Here was Momsen's account of that episode:

"I happened to look around, and there he (the inmate) was ready to crack me over the head. 'What do you want?' I asked him. The prisoner said: 'The keys to get out.' Then I said, pointing to a window: 'Look, it's raining.' When the prisoner went over to the window, the guards rushed in and grabbed him."

Momsen, who retired in 1938, died in 1939 at 81. After his death, hundreds of inmates who knew Momsen paid tribute to him as "a square shooter." Upward of 150,000 prisoners came under Momsen's jurisdiction during his 34 years as workhouse superintendent.

## Superintendent Until 1962

Joseph B. Drevnia, a retired Milwaukee deputy police inspector, served as House of Correction superintendent for 25 years until 1962. In 1949, the state ended operation of the chair factory. And the Army took possession of the Hopkins Rd. complex in 1945.

As a result, the third House of Correction was completed in the south end of the county at 8885 S. 68th St. in what is now Franklin. The newest complex, with a 125-acre farm, cost about \$22,000,000.

lake Ave. institution. It was razed during World War I, and the site was used for the construction of Milwaukee's first high school stadium — South Stadium.

## Sandlot Teams

Frank Szewaldowski, 73, of 2342 S. 12th St., a pharmacist, said that sandlot teams played baseball on the diamond just south of the original House of Correction, if a ball was hit over the prison wall, he said, the players retrieved it from an inmate by giving him a package of chewing tobacco through a prison guard.

Clemens F. Michalski, 73, of 3300 W. Oklahoma Ave., retired county clerk and former sheriff, said that Al Simons (then known as Aloy-

sius Szymanski) had achieved his skill as an outfielder and hitter while playing on the field with the Right Laundry sandlot team.

"Simons and other ballplayers often swapped cigars for plugs of chewing tobacco with prison inmates at small holes dug underneath the high prison fence," said Michalski. "There were no bubblegum chewing ballplayers during the World War I era."

Simons, who died in 1957, became a major league star with the Philadelphia Athletics in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

The Kinnickinnic field, which adjoins Pulaski High School, was renamed Al Simons Field by the County Park Commission in 1957.



Chas. L. Carter  
721 Glencoe Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

March 2, 1976.

Dear Agnar:

Was all set to answer your letter of Feb. 10 and just seemed get a lazy streak and couldn't find time or think of much to communicate, then your second letter came so will see what I can come up with now.

I certainly agree with you that the Prison Material collectors are increasing, I notice it locally, some are grabbing anything that comes along just in case. We have one lady in town that is that way and it seems that she is rather greedy in that she won't share any information with other collectors.

Enough for that. Haven't heard anything from Mr. Coy for some time. Sent him some powder and fuse tokens last fall and never did get a reply. Maybe he didn't get them.

The I & N Service tokens may be an interesting item. Maybe I can locate other values.

Enclosing the rubbing of the 5¢ LaGrange token you requested.

Your letter of Feb. 29,

MO-737  
SENT  
9/22/76  
HOMER

Would be interesting as to where the 'WORK HOUSE' token was used, seems like an unusual token and I assume the 'T' is stamped, maybe for the cancellation of value? I have never seen or heard of it possibly I can get some information from Harry English, anyway will try. I may be down in New Mexico later and will try and find out where used.

Thanks for the information on the LaGrange Ky. letter. Now we know for sure. They were used more recently than I would have guessed.

We might make the Jamboree, not real sure yet. Should there be any problem getting over the mountains of California at that time of the year? Didn't see much snow by rail a couple of years ago. Thinking of driving this time.

Haven't received the auction catalog yet.

Regards,



Smile  
her in  
last year  
or so